



Identifying practical adaptation options: An approach to address climate change-related health risks

Author(s): Ebi KL, Burton I
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Abstract:

There is little guidance for the health sector on identifying and prioritizing practical adaptation options to reduce current and projected burdens of climate-sensitive health determinants and outcomes at local and regional levels. An approach is outlined that identifies all theoretically possible adaptation options to reduce adverse climate change-related health outcomes through a search of current practice and experience and through expert solicitation. This theoretical range of choices can then be screened to generate a list of measures that are practical for implementation in a particular population and region. This approach is applied to a theoretical country facing a projected increase in malaria due to climate change. Prioritizing the options should take into consideration technical viability, human and financial resource capacity, compatibility with current policies, and other constraints. Policy makers can combine the information generated with other considerations to select measures for implementation. © 2008 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

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Resource Description

Communication: ☒

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience: ☒

audience to whom the resource is directed

Health Professional, Policymaker, Researcher

Early Warning System: ☒

resource focus on systems used to warn populations of high temperatures, extreme weather, or other elements of climate change to prevent harm to health

A focus of content

Exposure : ☒

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weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Unspecified Exposure

Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

General Health Impact

Intervention:

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

A focus of content

Medical Community Engagement:

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

Mitigation/Adaptation:

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion, Research Article

Resilience:

capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

A focus of content

Timescale:

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:

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resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content